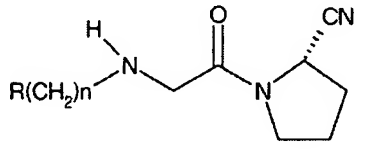
Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A method of treating hyperlipidemia ~~and/or~~ and/or conditions associated with hyperlipidemia comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I:



(I)

wherein

R is substituted adamantyl; and

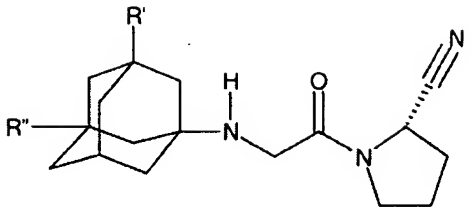
[[N]]n is 0 to 3; in free form or in acid addition salt form.

Claim 2 (canceled)

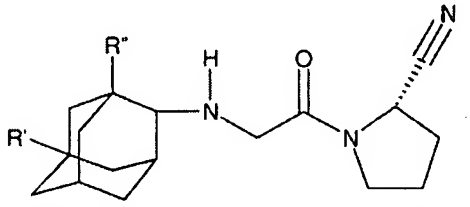
Claim 3 (withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula I, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 4 (withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising (a) a compound of formula I, and at least one compound selected from the group consisting of (b) an antihyperlipidemic agent; a plasma HDL-raising agent; an antihypercholesterolemic agent, such as a cholesterol biosynthesis inhibitor, e.g., an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor, an HMG-CoA synthase inhibitor, a squalene epoxidase inhibitor or a squalene synthetase inhibitor; an ACAT inhibitor; probucol; nicotinic acid and the salts thereof and niacinamide; a cholesterol absorption inhibitor; a bile acid sequestrant anion exchange resin; an LDL receptor inducer; a cholesterol absorption inhibitor; fibrates; vitamin B6 and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof; vitamin B12; vitamin B3; anti-oxidant vitamins; a β–blocker; an angiotensin II receptor (AT_1) antagonist; an angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor; a renin inhibitor, and a platelet aggregation inhibitor, a fibrinogen receptor antagonists, a glycoprotein IIb/IIIa fibrinogen receptor antagonists; and aspirin.

Claim 5 (withdrawn) A method of claim 1, wherein the compound of formula I is a compound selected from a compound of formulae IA or IB:



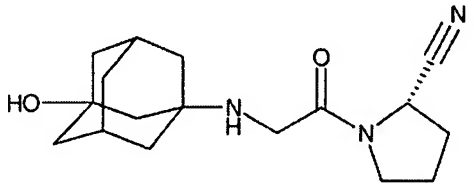
(IA)



(IB)

wherein R' represents hydroxy, C_1-C_7alkoxy, C_1-C_8-alkanoyloxy, or R_5R_4N--CO--O--, where R_4 and R_5 independently are C_1-C_7alkyl or phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by a substituent selected from C_1-C_7alkyl, C_1-C_7alkoxy, halogen and trifluoromethyl and where R_4 additionally is hydrogen; or R_4 and R_5 together represent C_3-C_6alkylene; and R" represents hydrogen; or R' and R" independently represent C_1-C_7alkyl; in free form or in form of a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt.

Claim 6 (previously presented) A method of claim 1, wherein the compound of formula I is a compound of formula IC.



(IC)

Claim 7 (previously presented) A method of claim 1, wherein the conditions associated with hyperlipidemia are selected from the group consisting of atherosclerosis, angina pectoris, carotid artery disease, cerebral arteriosclerosis, xanthoma, CHD, ischemic stroke, restenosis after angioplasty, peripheral vascular disease, intermittent claudication, reduction in necrosis after myocardial infarction, dyslipidemia, post-prandial lipemia.

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (currently amended) A method of lowering LDL, Lp(a) and/or VLDL levels in a mammal comprising administering to a mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I ~~and another active agent~~.

Claim 10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the compound of formula I is a compound of formula IC.

Claims 12-13 (canceled)

Claim 14 (withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 4, wherein the active agent (b) is selected from the group consisting of statins; bile acid-binding resins; nicotinic acid, probucol, β–carotene, vitamin E or vitamin C.

Claim 15 (withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 4, wherein the active agent (b) is selected from the group consisting of fluvastatin, lovastatin, pravastatin, atorvastatin or simvastatin.

Claim 16 (withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 4, wherein the compound of formula I is a compound of formula IC and wherein the active agent (b) is selected from the group consisting of fluvastatin, lovastatin, pravastatin, atorvastatin or simvastatin.

Claim 17 (canceled)

Claim 18 (previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the compound of formula I is a compound of formula IC.

Claims 19-26 (canceled)